

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Mehanna et al. Art Unit : 2445
Serial No. : 10/651,303 Examiner : Jeffrey R. Swearingen
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Title : HOST-BASED INTELLIGENT RESULTS RELATED TO A CHARACTER STREAM

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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BRIEF ON APPEAL

(1) Real Party in Interest

AOL LLC is the real party in interest.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no related appeals and interferences.

(3) Status of Claims

Claims 1-10, 12-59, 61-101 are pending.

(4) Status of Amendments

All claims have been entered and made of record.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

Claim 1 recites a method of presenting information to a user. See Fig. 1. The method comprises receiving, from a user, a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received. See Fig. 3. The method also comprises providing the character stream to a host that analyzes the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest. See Fig. 1. A first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application is received from the host. See Fig. 5. The first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result. See Fig. 5.

A second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument is received from the host, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function, wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result. See Fig. 5. The first result is displayed in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application. See Fig. 5. The second result is displayed in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application and the user is enabled to select from among the first and second results. See Fig. 5.

Claim 1 includes one or more of the following features. For example, receiving the character stream of one or more non-completion characters comprises receiving a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that have been entered, by the user, to an address line of a web browser. See Fig. 5. Receiving the first result that includes the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises receiving a mapping result that includes a first location and an identifier of a web mapping application, the mapping result including cartographic information, and displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises displaying the mapping result with an overview map that the user may select to display more detailed mapping information related to the overview map selected. See Fig. 8.

One or more updates to the character stream are received from the user. See, e.g., Figs. 8 and 9. The updates are provided to the host to permit the host to analyze the character stream using the updates to generate updated results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest and the updated results are received. See Fig. 9. The updated results are displayed so that the user may select one of the updated results. See Fig. 9.

Providing the updates to the character stream includes providing all characters in the character stream. See Fig. 5. Providing the updates to the character stream includes providing one or more characters in the character stream that have been received from the user since the character stream was last provided. See Fig. 4 (step 445). Providing the character stream

includes determining whether there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, and, if there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest. [0009].

Analyzing the character stream is delayed if there is not a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results. [0009] Determining whether there is the sufficient amount of data includes waiting until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been entered. [0009].

Displaying the results so that the user may select one of the results to launch a code segment may include enabling the user to launch a second application that is different from the first application that receives the character stream. Exchanging the character stream with a host may include polling multiple databases to identify results from each of the multiple databases. [0011].

The user may be enabled to configure the first application to control an operating mode of the first application. For example, the user may be enabled to select one or more databases to be accessed, to control a format with which the results are displayed, or to control a configuration for a drop down menu used to display results. [0012]. The character stream may be analyzed to determine a user profile, which may be stored and used to analyze subsequent character streams from the first application. [0013]. Displaying the results may include displaying a map related to the character stream. [0014]. Using the first application to receive the character stream may include analyzing the character stream before exchanging the character stream to identify that map information is related to the character stream. [0014]. Analyzing the character stream may include recognizing that a commonly used address term, such as a zip code, a state identifier or a city identifier, is present in the character stream. [0014].

Using the first application to receive the character stream may include analyzing the character stream before exchanging the character stream to identify that vendor information is related to the character stream, and instructing the host to return vendor information in the results. [0015]. Identifying vendor information may include identifying yellow page information related to the character stream or a category and a location appearing in the character stream. [0015].

The character stream may be analyzed for a messaging label appearing in the character stream. [0016]. Analyzing the character stream for the messaging label and displaying the results may include presenting a messaging code segment that enables the user to communicate with another user. [0016].

Analyzing the character stream may include determining that a user identifier appears in the character stream. [0017]. When such a user identifier appears, an online status of a user associated with the user identifier may be determined. [0017]. Determining the online status and displaying the results may include enabling the user to exchange an instant message with the user associated with the user identifier. [0017]. Analyzing the character stream for the messaging label may include recognizing that an '@' character appears in the character stream as an indication that an electronic mail message will be exchanged. [0017].

The results may be stored for subsequent access. [0018]. Storing the results includes storing the results the user has selected. [0018]. A first application may be used to receive a second stream of one or more non-completion characters where the non-completion characters indicate that additional characters may be received. [0018]. The stored results may be accessed and related to the second stream. [0018].

The stored results may be displayed when the second stream indicates that the user is requesting information related to the stored results. [0019]. The second stream may be exchanged with the host to analyze the second stream. [0019]. Second stream results may be received and displayed so that the user may select one of the second stream results to launch a code segment related to the second stream result, when the stored results do not relate to the second stream. [0019]. The operations described previously may be performed on a client or a host system. [0019].

Claim 41 recites a system enabling intelligent presenting information to a user. See Fig. 1. The system comprises a processor configured to receive, from a user, a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received. See Fig. 2 (210) . The processor provides the character stream to a host that analyzes the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest. Fig. 2 (220). The processor receives, from the host, a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application, and a second result that includes a second argument that is

different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function. See Fig. 2, (230-250).

The display device is structured and arranged to display the first result in a manner, enable the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result, and the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application, wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result. See Fig. 2 (260-290); see also Fig. 5. The system includes a selection device structured and arranged to enable the user to select from among the first and second results. See Fig. 2 (280).

Claim 41 may include one or more of the following features. For example, receiving the character stream of one or more non-completion characters comprises receiving a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that have been entered, by the user, to an address line of a web browser. See Fig. 5. Receiving the first result that includes the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises receiving a mapping result that includes a first location and an identifier of a web mapping application, the mapping result including cartographic information, and displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises displaying the mapping result with an overview map that the user may select to display more detailed mapping information related to the overview map selected. See Fig. 8.

One or more updates to the character stream are received from the user. See, e.g., Figs. 8 and 9. The updates are provided to the host to permit the host to analyze the character stream using the updates to generate updated results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest and the updated results are received. See Fig. 9. The updated results are displayed so that the user may select one of the updated results. See Fig. 9.

Providing the updates to the character stream includes providing all characters in the character stream. See Fig. 5. Providing the updates to the character stream includes providing one or more characters in the character stream that have been received from the user since the character stream was last provided. See Fig. 4 (step 445). Providing the character stream includes determining whether there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, and, if there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest. [0009].

Analyzing the character stream is delayed if there is not a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results. [0009] Determining whether there is the sufficient amount of data includes waiting until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been entered. [0009].

Displaying the results so that the user may select one of the results to launch a code segment may include enabling the user to launch a second application that is different from the first application that receives the character stream. Exchanging the character stream with a host may include polling multiple databases to identify results from each of the multiple databases. [0011].

The user may be enabled to configure the first application to control an operating mode of the first application. For example, the user may be enabled to select one or more databases to be accessed, to control a format with which the results are displayed, or to control a configuration for a drop down menu used to display results. [0012]. The character stream may be analyzed to determine a user profile, which may be stored and used to analyze subsequent character streams from the first application. [0013]. Displaying the results may include displaying a map related to the character stream. [0014]. Using the first application to receive the character stream may include analyzing the character stream before exchanging the character stream to identify that map information is related to the character stream. [0014]. Analyzing the character stream may include recognizing that a commonly used address term, such as a zip code, a state identifier or a city identifier, is present in the character stream. [0014].

Using the first application to receive the character stream may include analyzing the character stream before exchanging the character stream to identify that vendor information is

related to the character stream, and instructing the host to return vendor information in the results. [0015]. Identifying vendor information may include identifying yellow page information related to the character stream or a category and a location appearing in the character stream. [0015].

The character stream may be analyzed for a messaging label appearing in the character stream. [0016]. Analyzing the character stream for the messaging label and displaying the results may include presenting a messaging code segment that enables the user to communicate with another user. [0016].

Claim 52 recites a tangible computer-readable medium comprising means for receiving, from a user, a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received. See Fig. 1 (client 110 and host 130). The medium includes means for providing the character stream to a host that analyzes the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest. See Fig. 1 (client 110 and host 130) and means for receiving, from the host, a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application. See Fig. 1 (client 110 and host 130). The medium also includes means for receiving, from the host, a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function. See Fig. 5. The medium includes means for displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application and means for displaying the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application. See Fig. 5. The means also includes means for enabling the user to select from among the first and second results, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result, wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result. See Fig. 5.

Claim 52 may include one or more of the following features. For example, receiving the character stream of one or more non-completion characters comprises receiving a character

stream of one or more non-completion characters that have been entered, by the user, to an address line of a web browser. See Fig. 5. Receiving the first result that includes the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises receiving a mapping result that includes a first location and an identifier of a web mapping application, the mapping result including cartographic information, and displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises displaying the mapping result with an overview map that the user may select to display more detailed mapping information related to the overview map selected. See Fig. 8.

One or more updates to the character stream are received from the user. See, e.g., Figs. 8 and 9. The updates are provided to the host to permit the host to analyze the character stream using the updates to generate updated results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest and the updated results are received. See Fig. 9. The updated results are displayed so that the user may select one of the updated results. See Fig. 9.

Providing the updates to the character stream includes providing all characters in the character stream. See Fig. 5. Providing the updates to the character stream includes providing one or more characters in the character stream that have been received from the user since the character stream was last provided. See Fig. 4 (step 445). Providing the character stream includes determining whether there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, and, if there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest. [0009].

Analyzing the character stream is delayed if there is not a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results. [0009] Determining whether there is the sufficient amount of data includes waiting until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been entered. [0009].

Displaying the results so that the user may select one of the results to launch a code segment may include enabling the user to launch a second application that is different from the first application that receives the character stream. Exchanging the character stream with a host

may include polling multiple databases to identify results from each of the multiple databases. [0011].

The user may be enabled to configure the first application to control an operating mode of the first application. For example, the user may be enabled to select one or more databases to be accessed, to control a format with which the results are displayed, or to control a configuration for a drop down menu used to display results. [0012]. The character stream may be analyzed to determine a user profile, which may be stored and used to analyze subsequent character streams from the first application. [0013]. Displaying the results may include displaying a map related to the character stream. [0014]. Using the first application to receive the character stream may include analyzing the character stream before exchanging the character stream to identify that map information is related to the character stream. [0014]. Analyzing the character stream may include recognizing that a commonly used address term, such as a zip code, a state identifier or a city identifier, is present in the character stream. [0014].

Using the first application to receive the character stream may include analyzing the character stream before exchanging the character stream to identify that vendor information is related to the character stream, and instructing the host to return vendor information in the results. [0015]. Identifying vendor information may include identifying yellow page information related to the character stream or a category and a location appearing in the character stream. [0015].

The character stream may be analyzed for a messaging label appearing in the character stream. [0016]. Analyzing the character stream for the messaging label and displaying the results may include presenting a messaging code segment that enables the user to communicate with another user. [0016].

Analyzing the character stream may include determining that a user identifier appears in the character stream. [0017]. When such a user identifier appears, an online status of a user associated with the user identifier may be determined. [0017]. Determining the online status and displaying the results may include enabling the user to exchange an instant message with the user associated with the user identifier. [0017]. Analyzing the character stream for the messaging label may include recognizing that an '@' character appears in the character stream as an indication that an electronic mail message will be exchanged. [0017].

The results may be stored for subsequent access. [0018]. Storing the results includes storing the results the user has selected. [0018]. A first application may be used to receive a second stream of one or more non-completion characters where the non-completion characters indicate that additional characters may be received. [0018]. The stored results may be accessed and related to the second stream. [0018].

The stored results may be displayed when the second stream indicates that the user is requesting information related to the stored results. [0019]. The second stream may be exchanged with the host to analyze the second stream. [0019]. Second stream results may be received and displayed so that the user may select one of the second stream results to launch a code segment related to the second stream result, when the stored results do not relate to the second stream. [0019]. The operations described previously may be performed on a client or a host system. [0019].

Claim 84 recites a host that processes information received from a client to return results related to the information. The host comprises a processor configured to receive a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received. See Fig. 2 (230). The processor analyzes the character stream to generate results that are responsive to a user's predicted interest, the results including a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application and a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function. See Fig. 2 (240). The processor temporally stores the first and second results. See Fig. 2 (250 and 260). The processor renders the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application. See Fig. 5. The processor renders the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application. See Fig. 5. The host transmits the results to enable the user to select among the first and second results, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result. See Fig. 5. The second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and

the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result. See Fig. 5.

Claim 84 may include one or more of the following features. For example, receiving the character stream of one or more non-completion characters comprises receiving a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that have been entered, by the user, to an address line of a web browser. See Fig. 5. Receiving the first result that includes the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises receiving a mapping result that includes a first location and an identifier of a web mapping application, the mapping result including cartographic information, and displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises displaying the mapping result with an overview map that the user may select to display more detailed mapping information related to the overview map selected. See Fig. 8.

One or more updates to the character stream are received from the user. See, e.g., Figs. 8 and 9. The updates are provided to the host to permit the host to analyze the character stream using the updates to generate updated results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest and the updated results are received. See Fig. 9. The updated results are displayed so that the user may select one of the updated results. See Fig. 9.

Providing the updates to the character stream includes providing all characters in the character stream. See Fig. 5. Providing the updates to the character stream includes providing one or more characters in the character stream that have been received from the user since the character stream was last provided. See Fig. 4 (step 445). Providing the character stream includes determining whether there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, and, if there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest. [0009].

Analyzing the character stream is delayed if there is not a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results. [0009] Determining whether there is the sufficient amount of data includes waiting until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been entered. [0009].

Displaying the results so that the user may select one of the results to launch a code segment may include enabling the user to launch a second application that is different from the first application that receives the character stream. Exchanging the character stream with a host may include polling multiple databases to identify results from each of the multiple databases. [0011].

The user may be enabled to configure the first application to control an operating mode of the first application. For example, the user may be enabled to select one or more databases to be accessed, to control a format with which the results are displayed, or to control a configuration for a drop down menu used to display results. [0012]. The character stream may be analyzed to determine a user profile, which may be stored and used to analyze subsequent character streams from the first application. [0013]. Displaying the results may include displaying a map related to the character stream. [0014]. Using the first application to receive the character stream may include analyzing the character stream before exchanging the character stream to identify that map information is related to the character stream. [0014]. Analyzing the character stream may include recognizing that a commonly used address term, such as a zip code, a state identifier or a city identifier, is present in the character stream. [0014].

Using the first application to receive the character stream may include analyzing the character stream before exchanging the character stream to identify that vendor information is related to the character stream, and instructing the host to return vendor information in the results. [0015]. Identifying vendor information may include identifying yellow page information related to the character stream or a category and a location appearing in the character stream. [0015].

The character stream may be analyzed for a messaging label appearing in the character stream. [0016]. Analyzing the character stream for the messaging label and displaying the results may include presenting a messaging code segment that enables the user to communicate with another user. [0016].

Analyzing the character stream may include determining that a user identifier appears in the character stream. [0017]. When such a user identifier appears, an online status of a user associated with the user identifier may be determined. [0017]. Determining the online status and displaying the results may include enabling the user to exchange an instant message with the

user associated with the user identifier. [0017]. Analyzing the character stream for the messaging label may include recognizing that an ‘@’ character appears in the character stream as an indication that an electronic mail message will be exchanged. [0017].

The results may be stored for subsequent access. [0018]. Storing the results includes storing the results the user has selected. [0018]. A first application may be used to receive a second stream of one or more non-completion characters where the non-completion characters indicate that additional characters may be received. [0018]. The stored results may be accessed and related to the second stream. [0018].

The stored results may be displayed when the second stream indicates that the user is requesting information related to the stored results. [0019]. The second stream may be exchanged with the host to analyze the second stream. [0019]. Second stream results may be received and displayed so that the user may select one of the second stream results to launch a code segment related to the second stream result, when the stored results do not relate to the second stream. [0019]. The operations described previously may be performed on a client or a host system. [0019].

Claim 95 recites a tangible computer-readable medium comprising means for receiving a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received. See Fig. 2 (210-230). The medium includes means for analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to a user's predicted interest, the results including a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application and a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function. See Fig. 1 (host 130). The medium includes means for temporally storing the first and second results. See Fig. 2 (260). The medium also includes means for rendering the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application and means for rendering the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application. See Fig. 5. The means includes means for transmitting the first and second results to enable the user to select from among the first and second results, wherein the first web application is configured to

provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result. See Fig. 5. The second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result. See Fig. 5.

Claim 95 may includes one or more of the following features. For example, receiving the character stream of one or more non-completion characters comprises receiving a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that have been entered, by the user, to an address line of a web browser. See Fig. 5. Receiving the first result that includes the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises receiving a mapping result that includes a first location and an identifier of a web mapping application, the mapping result including cartographic information, and displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises displaying the mapping result with an overview map that the user may select to display more detailed mapping information related to the overview map selected. See Fig. 8.

One or more updates to the character stream are received from the user. See, e.g., Figs. 8 and 9. The updates are provided to the host to permit the host to analyze the character stream using the updates to generate updated results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest and the updated results are received. See Fig. 9. The updated results are displayed so that the user may select one of the updated results. See Fig. 9.

Providing the updates to the character stream includes providing all characters in the character stream. See Fig. 5. Providing the updates to the character stream includes providing one or more characters in the character stream that have been received from the user since the character stream was last provided. See Fig. 4 (step 445). Providing the character stream includes determining whether there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, and, if there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest. [0009].

Analyzing the character stream is delayed if there is not a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results. [0009] Determining whether there is the sufficient

amount of data includes waiting until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been entered. [0009].

Displaying the results so that the user may select one of the results to launch a code segment may include enabling the user to launch a second application that is different from the first application that receives the character stream. Exchanging the character stream with a host may include polling multiple databases to identify results from each of the multiple databases. [0011].

The user may be enabled to configure the first application to control an operating mode of the first application. For example, the user may be enabled to select one or more databases to be accessed, to control a format with which the results are displayed, or to control a configuration for a drop down menu used to display results. [0012]. The character stream may be analyzed to determine a user profile, which may be stored and used to analyze subsequent character streams from the first application. [0013]. Displaying the results may include displaying a map related to the character stream. [0014]. Using the first application to receive the character stream may include analyzing the character stream before exchanging the character stream to identify that map information is related to the character stream. [0014]. Analyzing the character stream may include recognizing that a commonly used address term, such as a zip code, a state identifier or a city identifier, is present in the character stream. [0014].

Using the first application to receive the character stream may include analyzing the character stream before exchanging the character stream to identify that vendor information is related to the character stream, and instructing the host to return vendor information in the results. [0015]. Identifying vendor information may include identifying yellow page information related to the character stream or a category and a location appearing in the character stream. [0015].

The character stream may be analyzed for a messaging label appearing in the character stream. [0016]. Analyzing the character stream for the messaging label and displaying the results may include presenting a messaging code segment that enables the user to communicate with another user. [0016].

Analyzing the character stream may include determining that a user identifier appears in the character stream. [0017]. When such a user identifier appears, an online status of a user

associated with the user identifier may be determined. [0017]. Determining the online status and displaying the results may include enabling the user to exchange an instant message with the user associated with the user identifier. [0017]. Analyzing the character stream for the messaging label may include recognizing that an '@' character appears in the character stream as an indication that an electronic mail message will be exchanged. [0017].

The results may be stored for subsequent access. [0018]. Storing the results includes storing the results the user has selected. [0018]. A first application may be used to receive a second stream of one or more non-completion characters where the non-completion characters indicate that additional characters may be received. [0018]. The stored results may be accessed and related to the second stream. [0018].

The stored results may be displayed when the second stream indicates that the user is requesting information related to the stored results. [0019]. The second stream may be exchanged with the host to analyze the second stream. [0019]. Second stream results may be received and displayed so that the user may select one of the second stream results to launch a code segment related to the second stream result, when the stored results do not relate to the second stream. [0019]. The operations described previously may be performed on a client or a host system. [0019].

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

Claims 1, 3-8, 11-22, 26-31, 34-45, 48-57, 60-68, 72-76, 78-88, and 91-101 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gross et al. (US 2004/0133564, now published as US 7,370,035) in view of Wolton et al. (US 2004/0030741).

(7) Argument

Independent claim 1 recites, "receiving, from the host, a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result" and "receiving, from the host, a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from

the first web application in function, wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result.” Neither Gross nor Walton describe or suggest these features.

The first reference, Gross describes that a web browser is one application is used by the control bar 302A shown in Fig. 3A. See Fig. 3A. Within Fig. 3A, there is a files tab 304A, an email tab 306A (currently selected), and a web tab 310A. All of these applications are part of the control bar 302A. See Paragraph 0096. Thus, the control bar 302A is NOT part of Internet Explorer (web tab 310A). Rather, the Internet Explorer application shown in tab 310A and referenced by the Office Action in [0082] is a merely a peer to the email application shown in tab 306A. Thus, the configuration of Internet Explorer shown in Gross as exemplified in Fig. 3A and described in [0082] and [0100] does not make the other applications shown in control pane 302A web applications.

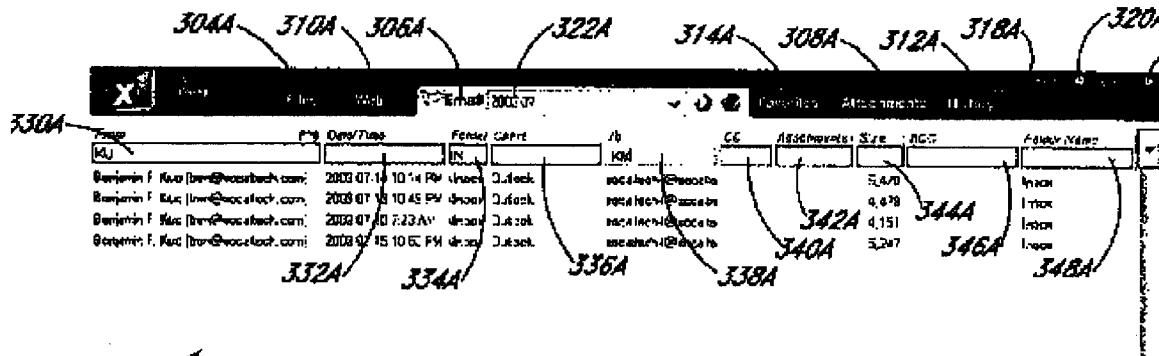
In relating Gross to the previous instance of the limitation that recited, “receiving, from the host, a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application,” the Office Action points to paragraph 0040. For convenience, paragraph 0040 has been included below.

[0040] The index engine 103 can utilize one or more indexing algorithms to create an index, such as a reverse or inverted index. The index includes a data structure that associates character strings with files, documents, and the like. In one example embodiment, for each word or character string found with a file or document, the index stores which fields of which documents or files contain that word or character string.

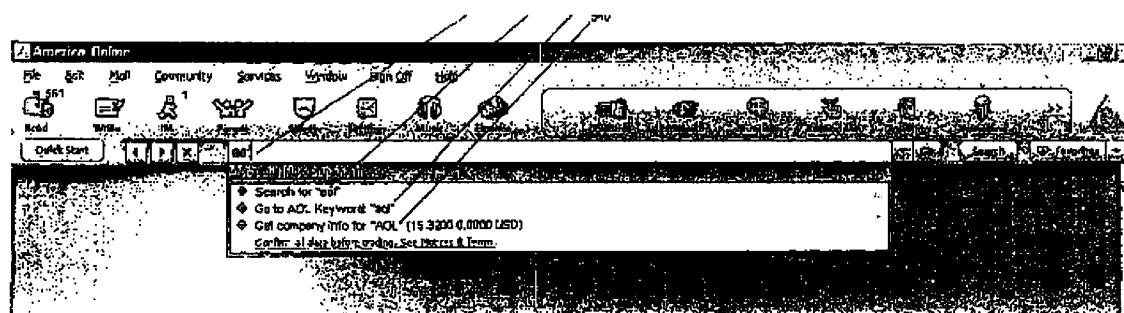
First, and as is demonstrated above, the preceding section fails to describe “a first argument” as required by amended independent claim 1. Instead, Gross describes providing a listing of search results. Since Gross fails to describe a first argument, Gross necessarily fails to describe or suggest “wherein . . . the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result.”

Second, Gross fails to describe “first specialized services.” Instead, Gross enables searches to be separated by different tabs. It is unclear how the figures shown represent a “first web application is configured to provide first specialized services.” In recognizing that Gross fails to describe identifiers, the Office Action turns to Walton. Walton describes a list of MIME types. Walton’s list of MIME types indicate which file types that may be supported. However, Walton does not describe how the different files are presented nor does Walton describe or suggest the interface through which files are accessed. Because Walton is silent as to any interface, Walton necessarily fails to describe or suggest, “receiving, from the host, a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result” and “receiving, from the host, a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function, wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result,” as required by independent claim 1.

The Office fails to appreciate these differences in the Final Office Action. Instead, the Final Office Action argues that the discussion in Walton and Gross of searching using a character stream teaches the limitations of claim 1. For example, the Final Office Action relies on Fig. 3 in Gross, and the illustration of how email or word documents are matched to the character stream. Fig. 3 in Gross has been reproduced below.



The above figure from Gross demonstrates that Gross while Gross features the use of searching, Gross does not describe or suggest the use of arguments, and specifically, "and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result." These differences are best exemplified by Fig. 5 in the present application.



As is demonstrated above, typing in the character stream produces selectable results. The first selectable result represents a structured search query that launches a search for the term "aol." The second selectable result passes the term "AOL" to the AOL Keyword web application. Still a third selectable result enables the user to receive company information for "AOL" and also illustrates the stock price. Unlike Gross, Fig. 5 illustrates that the character stream itself is passed on as an argument to the different web applications. These differences are further exemplified by claim 30, which recites "wherein analyzing the character stream for the messaging label includes determining that a user identifier appears in the character stream." Contrary to the assertions in the Final Office Action that this limitation is addressed by "enabling the user to communicate with another user," this functionality is simply not contemplated by Gross.

Independent claims 41, 53, 84, and 95 are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons set forth above. Accordingly, the reversal of the pending rejection and allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

The appeal brief fee in the amount of \$540 is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/11/06



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Appendix of Claims

1. A method of presenting information to a user, the method comprising:

receiving, from a user, a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received;

providing the character stream to a host that analyzes the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest;

receiving, from the host, a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result;

receiving, from the host, a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function, wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result;

displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application;

displaying the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application; and

enabling the user to select from among the first and second results.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein

receiving the character stream of one or more non-completion characters comprises receiving a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that have been entered, by the user, to an address line of a web browser,

receiving the first result that includes the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises receiving a mapping result that includes a first location and an identifier of a web mapping application, the mapping result including cartographic information, and

displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises displaying

the mapping result with an overview map that the user may select to display more detailed mapping information related to the overview map selected.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving, from the user, one or more updates to the character stream;

providing the updates to the host to permit the host to analyze the character stream using the updates to generate updated results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest;

receiving the updated results; and

displaying the updated results so that the user may select one of the updated results.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein providing the updates to the character stream includes providing all characters in the character stream.

5. The method of claim 3 wherein providing the updates to the character stream includes providing one or more characters in the character stream that have been received from the user since the character stream was last provided.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein providing the character stream includes determining whether there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, and, if there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest.

7. The method of claim 6 further comprising delaying analyzing the character stream if there is not a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results.

8. The method of claim 6 wherein determining whether there is the sufficient amount of data includes waiting until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been entered.

9. The method of claim 6 wherein determining whether there is the sufficient amount of data includes waiting until a predetermined amount of time has elapsed since the user last entered a new character in the character stream.

10. The method of claim 6 wherein determining whether there is the sufficient amount of data includes waiting until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been entered, unless a predetermined amount of time has elapsed since a new character in the character stream has been entered.

12. The method of claim 1 further comprising launching the first web application upon selection of the first result.

13. The method of claim 1 further comprising launching the second web application upon selection of the second result.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein providing the character stream to the host includes polling multiple databases to identify results from each of the multiple databases.

15. The method of claim 1 further comprising enabling the user to configure a web browser to control an operating mode of the web browser.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein enabling the user to configure the web browser includes enabling the user to select one or more databases to be accessed.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein enabling the user to configure the web browser includes enabling the user to control a format with which the results are displayed.

18. The method of claim 15 wherein enabling the user to configure the web browser includes enabling the user to control a configuration for a drop down menu used to display the results.

19. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
analyzing the character stream to determine a user profile;
storing the user profile; and
using the user profile to analyze subsequent character streams.

20. The method of claim 1 wherein displaying the first result includes displaying a map related to the character stream.

21. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving the character stream includes analyzing the character stream before providing the character stream to identify that map information is related to the character stream.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein analyzing the character stream includes recognizing that a commonly used address term is present in the character stream.

23. The method of claim 22 wherein recognizing the commonly used address term includes recognizing that a zip code appears in the character stream.

24. The method of claim 22 wherein recognizing the commonly used address term includes recognizing that a state identifier appears in the character stream.

25. The method of claim 22 wherein recognizing the commonly used address term includes recognizing that a city identifier appears in the character stream.

26. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving the character stream includes analyzing the character stream before providing the character stream to identify that vendor information is related to the character stream, and instructing the host to return vendor information in the results.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein identifying that vendor information is related to the character stream includes identifying yellow page information related to the character stream.
28. The method of claim 26 wherein identifying that vendor information is related to the character stream includes identifying a category and a location appearing in the character stream.
29. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving the character stream includes analyzing the character stream for a messaging label appearing in the character stream.
30. The method of claim 29 wherein analyzing the character stream for the messaging label includes enabling the user to communicate with another user.
31. The method of claim 29 wherein analyzing the character stream for the messaging label includes determining that a user identifier appears in the character stream.
32. The method of claim 31 further comprising determining an online status of a user associated with the user identifier.
33. The method of claim 32 further comprising enabling the user to exchange an instant message with the user associated with the user identifier.
34. The method of claim 29 wherein analyzing the character stream for the messaging label includes recognizing that an '@' character appears in the character stream.
35. The method of claim 1 further comprising storing the results.
36. The method of claim 35 wherein storing the results includes storing results selected by the user.
37. The method of claim 35 further comprising:

receiving, from the user, a second character stream of one or more non-completion characters where the non-completion characters indicate that additional characters may be received;

accessing stored results; and

relating the stored results to the second character stream.

38. The method of claim 37 further comprising displaying the stored results when the second character stream indicates that the user is requesting information related to the stored results.

39. The method of claim 38 further comprising, when the stored results do not relate to the second character stream:

providing the second character stream to the host to analyze the second character stream to generate second character stream results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest;

receiving the second character stream results; and

displaying the second character stream results.

40. The method of claim 1 wherein providing the character stream includes validating Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) in the character stream.

41. A system enabling intelligent presenting information to a user, the system comprising:

a processor configured to:

receive, from a user, a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received;

provide the character stream to a host that analyzes the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest;

receive, from the host:

a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application, and a second result that includes a second argument that is different

from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function; a display device structured and arranged to display:

the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result, and

the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application, wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result; and

a selection device structured and arranged to enable the user to select from among the first and second results.

42. The system of claim 41 wherein the processor is further configured to:

receive one or more updates to the character stream;

provide the updates to the character stream to the host to permit the host to analyze the character stream using the updates to generate updated results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest;

receive the updated results; and

enable display the updated results so that the user may select one of the updated results.

43. The system of claim 41 wherein the processor is further configured to determine whether a sufficient amount of data exists in the character stream to generate accurate results, and, if there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, analyze the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest.

44. The system of claim 43 wherein the processor is further configured to delay analyzing the character stream if there is not a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results.

45. The system of claim 44 wherein the processor is further configured to wait until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been entered before providing the character stream.

46. The system of claim 44 wherein the processor is further configured to wait until a predetermined amount of time has elapsed since the user last entered a new character in the character stream before providing the character stream.

47. The system of claim 44 wherein the processor is further configured to wait until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been entered, unless a predetermined amount of time has elapsed since a new character in the character stream has been entered before providing the character stream.

48. The system of claim 41 wherein the processor is further configured to:
analyze the character stream to determine a user profile;
store the user profile; and
use the user profile to analyze subsequent character streams.

49. The system of claim 41 wherein the processor is further configured to:
analyze the character stream before providing the character stream to identify that vendor information is related to the character stream, and
instruct the host to return vendor information in the results.

50. The system of claim 49 wherein the processor is further configured to identify a category and a location appearing in the character stream in identifying vendor information.

51. The system of claim 41 wherein the processor is further configured to analyze the character stream for a messaging label appearing in the character stream.

52. A tangible computer-readable medium comprising:

means for receiving, from a user, a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received;

means for providing the character stream to a host that analyzes the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest;

means for receiving, from the host, a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application;

means for receiving, from the host, a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function;

means for displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application;

means for displaying the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application; and

means for enabling the user to select from among the first and second results, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result, and

wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result.

53. A method of using a host to process information received from a client to return results related to the information, the method comprising:

receiving a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received;

analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to a user's predicted interest, the results including a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application and a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function;

temporally storing the first and second results;

rendering the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application;

rendering the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application; and

transmitting the first and second results to enable the user to select from among the first and second results, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result, and

wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result.

54. The method of claim 53 further comprising:

receiving one or more updates to the character stream;

analyzing the character stream using the updates to generate updated results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest; and

transmitting the updated results to enable the user to select one of the updated results.

55. The method of claim 53 wherein analyzing the character stream includes determining whether there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, and, if there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest.

56. The method of claim 55 further comprising delaying analyzing the character stream if there is not a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results.

57. The method of claim 55 wherein determining whether there is the sufficient amount of data in the character stream includes waiting until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been received.

58. The method of claim 55 wherein determining whether there is the sufficient amount of data includes waiting until a predetermined amount of time has elapsed since the last character in the character stream has been received.

59. The method of claim 55 wherein determining whether there is the sufficient amount of data includes waiting until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been received, unless a predetermined amount of time has elapsed since a new character in the character stream has been received.

61. The method of claim 53 wherein analyzing the character stream includes polling multiple databases to identify results from each of the multiple databases.

62. The method of claim 53 wherein receiving the character stream includes receiving the character stream from a web browser, the method further comprising enabling a service provider to configure the web browser to control an operating mode of the web browser.

63. The method of claim 62 wherein enabling the service provider to configure the web browser includes enabling the service provider to select one or more databases to be accessed.

64. The method of claim 62 wherein enabling the service provider to configure the web browser includes enabling the service provider to control a format with which the results are displayed.

65. The method of claim 62 wherein enabling the service provider to configure the web browser includes enabling the service provider to control a drop down menu to control the operating mode of the web browser.

66. The method of claim 53 further comprising:
analyzing the character stream to determine a user profile;
storing the user profile; and
using the user profile to analyze subsequent character streams received.

67. The method of claim 53 wherein analyzing the character stream includes analyzing the character stream to identify that mapping information is related to the character stream.

68. The method of claim 67 wherein identifying that mapping information is related to the character stream includes recognizing that a commonly used address term is present in the character stream.

69. The method of claim 68 wherein identifying that mapping information is related to the character stream includes recognizing that a zip code is present in the character stream.

70. The method of claim 68 wherein identifying that mapping information is related to the character stream includes recognizing that a state identifier is present in the character stream.

71. The method of claim 68 wherein identifying that mapping information is related to the character stream includes recognizing that a city identifier is present in the character stream.

72. The method of claim 53 wherein analyzing the character stream includes analyzing the character stream to identify that vendor information is related to the character stream.

73. The method of claim 72 wherein identifying that vendor information is related to the character stream includes identifying yellow page information related to the character stream.

74. The method of claim 72 wherein identifying that vendor information is related to the character stream includes identifying a category and a location present in the character stream.

75. The method of claim 53 wherein analyzing the character stream includes identifying a messaging label present in the character stream.

76. The method of claim 75 wherein identifying the messaging label includes determining that a user identifier is present in the character stream.

77. The method of claim 76 further comprising determining an online status of a user associated with the user identifier.

78. The method of claim 75 wherein identifying the messaging label includes recognizing that an '@' character appears in the character stream.

79. The method of claim 53 further comprising storing the results.

80. The method of claim 79 wherein storing the results includes storing results selected by the user.

81. The method of claim 79 further comprising:
receiving a second character stream of one or more non-completion characters where the non-completion characters indicate that additional characters may be received;
accessing stored results; and
relating the stored results to the second character stream.

82. The method of claim 81 further comprising transmitting the stored results when the second character stream indicates the user is requesting information related to the stored results.

83. The method of claim 53 further comprising validating Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) in the character stream.

84. A host that processes information received from a client to return results related to the information, the host comprising a processor configured to:

receive a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received;

analyze the character stream to generate results that are responsive to a user's predicted interest, the results including a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application and a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function;

temporally store the first and second results;

render the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application, and

render the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application; and

transmit the results to enable the user to select among the first and second results, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result, and

wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result.

85. The host of claim 84 wherein the processor is further configured to:

receive one or more updates to the character stream;

analyze the character stream using the updates to generate updated results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest; and

transmit the updated results to enable the user to select one of the updated results.

86. The host of claim 84 wherein the processor is further configured to determine whether there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, and, if there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, analyze the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest.

87. The host of claim 86 wherein the processor is further configured to delay analysis of the character stream when there is not a sufficient amount of data in the character stream.

88. The host of claim 87 wherein the processor is further configured to wait until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been received.

89. The host of claim 87 wherein the processor is further configured to wait until a predetermined amount of time has elapsed since the last character in the character stream has been received.

90. The host of claim 87 wherein the processor is further configured to wait until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been received, unless a predetermined amount of time has elapsed since a new character in the character stream has been received.

91. The host of claim 84 wherein the processor is further configured to:
analyze the character stream to determine a user profile;
store the user profile; and
use the user profile to analyze subsequent character streams.

92. The host of claim 84 wherein the processor is further configured to:
analyze the character stream to identify vendor information related to the character stream, and
return vendor information in the results.

93. The host of claim 92 wherein the processor is further configured to identify a category and a location present in the character stream.

94. The host of claim 84 wherein the processor is further configured to analyze the character stream for a messaging label present in the character stream.

95. A tangible computer-readable medium comprising:
means for receiving a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received;
means for analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to a user's predicted interest, the results including a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application and a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function;
means for temporally storing the first and second results;
means for rendering the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application;
means for rendering the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application; and
means for transmitting the first and second results to enable the user to select from among the first and second results, wherein the first web application is configured to provide first specialized services and the first argument is passed to the first specialized services in response to user selection of the first result, and
wherein the second web application is configured to provide second specialized services and the second argument is passed to the second specialized services in response to user selection of the second result.

96. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving the character stream includes receiving characters entered before a completion character.

97. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving the character stream includes receiving character entered before a carriage return.

98. The system of claim 41 wherein the processor is further configured to receive the character stream of one or more non-completion characters, the non-completion characters representing characters entered before a completion character.

99. The system of claim 41 wherein the processor is further configured to receive the character stream of one or more non-completion characters, the non-completion characters representing characters entered before a carriage return.

100. The method of claim 1, wherein the first web application and the second web application are each a web application selected from a group of web applications comprising a web mapping application, a directory application, a web search application, a keyword application, a stock quote application, a calendar application, a virtual phone application, a messaging application, and a web email application.

101. The method of claim 1, wherein the first web application is a web mapping application and the second web application is a web search application.

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Evidence Appendix

None.

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Related Proceedings Appendix

None.